

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
RICHFORD, VERMONT**

**July 21, 2014**

Chair Linda Collins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members Tim Green, Wayne Hurtubise, Chris Martel, and Norris Tillotson present. Also present were Laura Ovitt, Kim Collins, Eric Collins, Joe Pollender and John Nutting.

Kim Collins, Housing Code Enforcement Officer, reported she visited 45 Intervale Ave. on June 12 and noted three violations. There was no over- occupancy at that time. All three apartments are restricted to 4 persons each.

Kim inspected the 119 – 135 Man Street building in March. The fire marshal talked with the owner and he revisited in June. There were minor violations. The property needs to be reinspected prior to re-rental. She will follow up.

Apparently the sewer leakage has been repaired. The State will follow-up.

Kim would like to see all properties numbering consistent with 911.

Kim suggested an ordinance that would restrict rental units with more than two persons from keeping pets.

Kim recommended the town should work through their attorney regarding 3 Hamilton Place. A letter will be sent to the property owner.

Kim and Eric left at 7:10 PM.

John Nutting presented paving bids as follows:

Grey's Paving in Coventry – did not bid.

Pike Industries - \$83.12 per ton for 1602 tons

ECI - \$85.00 per ton for 1602 tons

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Wayne Hurtubise, to accept the Pike Industries bid, with work to be finished on or before August 31. The motion carried.

John reported replacing the drainage grate in the town hall driveway will be done in-house.

John asked permission to stockpile grindings from the Rt. 139 paving project at the Eastern Ave. parking lot and at the gravel pit. The board so approved.

John said the State has filed complaints regarding the rust on the Main Street bridge. When ECI grinds on the bridge the town and state will observe.

John reported there has been no news regarding the skidder damage on South Richford Road. He is going for the physical damage done to town roads.

The repair for damage on Rt. 1015 was paid by the town.

Wayne Hurtubise reported the highway crew is hauling gravel to be crushed here.

Gary Royea is back at work; a doctor's letter is on file.

ECI is currently working on Rt. 139. They may be moving out tomorrow.

John Nutting left at 7:25.

Motion made by Chris Martel, seconded by Norris Tillotson, to approve the minutes of the July 7 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Tim Green, to approve the minutes of the July 17 special meeting. The motion carried, with Wayne Hurtubise abstaining.

Laura discussed the proposed website upgrade. Tim Green pointed out that the upgrade may not be necessary. The board agreed to put the site back on-line.

Motion made by Tim Green, seconded by Chris Martel, to approve the \$500 software upgrade following another conversation with Keith Darby to verify necessity. The motion carried.

Linda Collins reported she has talked with Greg Lamoureux regarding placing an article in the Courier about the efforts being made to quiet some of the evening downtown activity.

Linda advised the Exotic Animal ordinance needs to be updated per advice from the sheriff. The sheriff has been making visits to people keeping snakes.

Norris Tillotson reported the sheriff picked up a car on Province St. He said the sheriff missed the action, which takes place between 9 – 10 PM.

Linda reported the Zoning Administrator has requested a pay increase of \$50 per month. Tim Green said he felt there should be a more timely response to complaints.

Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise, seconded by Chris Martel, to increase the zoning administrator's pay by \$50 per month. The motion carried with Wayne Hurtubise, Chris Martel and Linda Collins voting yes, and Tim Green and Norris Tillotson abstaining. The board determined to dispense with the friendly letter.

The board determined to look into the statute regarding zoning fines and, if necessary, update the bylaws.

Linda reported the selectboard is being cited by the zoning administrator for junk on parcel TR0113X. The board determined to respond to the ZA on July 22 regarding the agreement violation. The adjacent property owner will be contacted and told to remove the junk. If the junk is not removed by July 28, the town will remove it and the board's agreement for the use of town land will be revoked.

Chris Martel reported a complaint has been received regarding a dog kept at 444 East Richford Slide Road. Laura was directed to send the complaint to Wendy Boyce at the State's Attorney's office and to Attorney Mike Gawne.

Linda reported on property sold at tax sale that were not redeemed.

Motion made by Wayne Hurtubise , seconded by Linda Collins, to approve the Better Backroads grant application for preparation of a capital budget for the highway department. The motion carried. Wayne was authorized by the board to sign the application on their behalf.

Laura reported that recording fees have been received for the driveway permit approved at the last meeting.

Chris Martel reported the fencing projects at the Troy Street and Richford Center Cemeteries have been completed.

Summer camp is going well. The fire department will be asked to hose down the road at the playground. There is an issue with dog feces in the Main Street Park.

Tim Green reported the water fountain at the playground is leaking. The board determined to contact a handyman to make repairs and to bill NOTCH.

Tim reported the vault project needs a state permit because it will be a fire-proof room. Wayne Hurtubise stated specs are needed for the project.

Chris Martel a complaint has been received that dogs attacked the neighboring property owner. Laura was directed to send the statement to Attorney Joe Cahill.

The board discussed the exotic animal ordinance. The state restricts the keeping of poisonous snakes.

Tim Green reported he will be attending a meeting in Enosburg regarding a proposal for a regional ambulance service.

Tim Green reported he has met with Bruce Wetherby regarding the new law about trash collection. He said Bruce believes his contract is automatically renewed by the board.

Norris Tillotson reported Dirt Tech mobilized today for the repairs at the water intake. The board reviewed the diagram for the needed repairs.

Meter repair work is getting caught up.

Norris reported he, Alan Fletcher and Laura met at the trailer park with Mark Lafayette on July 18 to inspect disconnected water lines on four lots. Norris and Mark agreed to install locks on the curb stops. Per ordinance, the sewer line needs to be cut and cemented to abandon a water service. A letter will be sent to Mark.

The board discussed existing water/sewer bills for the four lots. Motion made by Norris Tillotson, seconded by Chris Martel, to waive the existing bills for TR0234-I and TR0234-O. The motion carried.

Norris reported sludge removal is continuing. One load has been transported, and another is nearly ready. The sled is working well, but more solids need to be removed. He will meet with Drummac. The aeration system is now working well.

Tim Green reported SOS had been asked to produce a document regarding the metering at Blue Seal. The document has not been received.

Linda Collins reported the Fire Department's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated this summer. The board set aside \$400 for the event during budget preparation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Laura Ovitt  
Administrative Assistant